# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# FINANCE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1988
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2005
SMUGGLING OF CARDAMOM AND PEPPER
Thomas Shri P.C.

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether there are complaints of smuggling of Cardamom and Pepper of India from Guatemala and Vietnam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this matter was brought to the notice of the Ministry in their Consultative Committee meeting also;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the number of smuggling cases detected by the Government during the last three years?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. S. S. PALANIMANICKAM )

(a) &(b): Complaints of under valuation in the import of Cardamom from Guatemala to India and of mis-declaration of country of origin in respect of Cardamom of Guatemala and Pepper of Vietnam in order to avail SAPTA/ISFTA Notification benefits have been received.

(c): This was brought to the notice of the Ministry in the last meting of the Consultative Committee meeting.

(d): The field formations have been asked to intensify vigil to check cases of smuggling, undervaluation and mis-declaration.

(e): The details of seizure cases of Cardamom are appended below:

| Year | No.of cases | Quantity (in kgs) | Value (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2002-03 | 108 | 2359 | 21.25 |
| 2003-04 | 213 | 8939 | 59.42 |
| 2003-05 | 174 | 11349 | 66.29 |

No case of seizure of Pepper has been booked during last three years.